

Cutting Garden Plan

STRUCTURED BEDS FILLED WITH FLOWERS FOR CUTTING THROUGHOUT THE GROWING SEASON



A cutting garden arranges raised beds of flowers for gathering throughout the growing season, framed by generous shrubs and a quiet dining patio. Iris, peony, lupine, allium, gladiolus, daylily and rose fill the beds with color for bouquets,

while smooth hydrangea, Shasta daisy and lacecap hydrangea add abundant blooms along the edges.

PLANT LIST

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| 1 Hydrangea arborescens 'Abetwo'
Incrediball Smooth Hydrangea | 5 Lupinus polyphyllus 'Westcountry Masterpiece'
Westcountry Masterpiece Lupine | 9 Rosa 'Good As Gold'
Good As Gold Hybrid Tea Rose |
| 2 Leucanthemum x superbum
Real Charmer Shasta Daisy | 6 Allium 'Purple Rain'
Purple Rain Ornamental Onion | 10 Hydrangea macrophylla 'Blaumeise'
Blaumeise Lacecap Hydrangea |
| 3 Iris 'Candy Colors'
Candy Colors Iris | 7 Gladiolus 'Fairytale Pink'
Fairytale Pink Sword Lily | |
| 4 Paeonia lactiflora 'Coral Sunset'
Coral Sunset Peony | 8 Hemerocallis 'Charles Johnston'
Charles Johnston Daylily | |

PLANTING & CARE GUIDE

Getting Started

Before You Plant: A little preparation before planting will help your new garden become healthy, attractive, and easier to maintain for years to come.

Choose the Right Location: Before planting, confirm that your selected site matches the light requirements listed for your garden plan. Most designs are created for specific growing conditions, such as full sun, part shade, or full shade. Also verify that your USDA Hardiness Zone is suitable for the plants included in the design.

Prepare the Soil: Healthy soil provides the foundation for healthy plants. Loosen the planting area to a depth of at least 6 to 8 inches and incorporate compost or other organic matter if your soil is heavy clay, excessively sandy, or lacking organic material. Good drainage is essential for the majority of ornamental plants.

If you're uncertain about your soil's fertility or pH, consider having it tested through your local extension office or garden center. Amend the soil only if recommended by the test results.

Preparing the Planting Area

If planting into an existing lawn, outline the bed using a garden hose before removing the grass. Once the sod has been removed, loosen the soil thoroughly and blend in organic matter throughout the planting area.

After preparing the bed, water the soil well and allow it to rest for several days. This gives dormant weed seeds an opportunity to sprout, making them much easier to remove before planting begins.

Planting Your Garden

Arrange all plants on the prepared bed while they are still in their nursery containers. This allows you to visualize the finished design and make any adjustments before digging.

For the best results, install plants from largest to smallest:

- Trees
- Shrubs
- Perennials
- Groundcovers or annuals (if included)

Trees: Dig a hole approximately twice as wide as the root ball but no deeper than its height. Position the tree so the top of the root ball sits at or just above the surrounding soil. Backfill gradually, gently firming the soil as you go, then water deeply.

Shrubs: Plant shrubs in a hole roughly twice the width of the container. Keep the top of the root ball level with or slightly

above the surrounding soil. Fill the hole, firm the soil lightly, and water thoroughly.

Perennials & Groundcovers: Plant each at the same depth it was growing in its container. Firm the soil gently around the roots and water well immediately after planting.

Finishing the Garden

Mulch: Apply a 2 to 3 inch layer of mulch after planting, keeping it a few inches away from stems and trunks. Mulch helps conserve moisture, suppress weeds, regulate soil temperature, and reduce erosion. Organic mulches gradually improve soil as they decompose and should be replenished as needed.

Edging: Installing edging around planting beds helps maintain crisp borders and reduces grass or weeds from spreading into the garden. Stone, metal, brick, or quality landscape edging are all effective options.

Ongoing Care

Watering: Consistent watering is most important during the first growing season. During the first two weeks, water deeply every few days, adjusting for rainfall and temperature. After plants become established, provide one inch of water per week during dry periods. Water less frequently but more deeply to encourage root development.

Weeding: Remove weeds regularly during the first year before they become established. As your plants mature and fill in, weed growth will naturally decline.

Pruning: Most shrubs benefit from light pruning during late winter or early spring before new growth begins.

Spring-flowering shrubs should be pruned shortly after they finish blooming to preserve next year's flower buds. Remove dead, damaged, or crossing branches whenever needed.

Enjoy Your Garden

Your new landscape will continue to improve as the plants mature. With regular watering during establishment, seasonal mulching, occasional pruning, and routine weeding, your garden will develop into a beautiful, balanced planting that provides years of enjoyment.

